

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the original paragraph beginning on page 16, line 22, and ending on page 17, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

As can be seen from the Figs. 7-12, the compression code tables for translating prediction errors or differences to compressed code are established to provide a range of coding appropriate to the levels or variations in the difference values for each subregion of the data stream. Specifically, table 170 of Fig. 7 is adapted to a lowest entropy level as indicated by the low difference variation (zero) accommodated by the shortest code in the table and the relatively fine steps between the difference levels. Fig. 8 represents a second compression code table 184 providing for relatively higher entropy as indicated by the relatively broader maximum levels accommodated by the table and the relatively higher difference ranges as compared to table 170 of Fig. 7. Figs. 9, 10, 11 and 12 provide additional examples of compression code tables 186, 188, 190 and 192, respectively, for encoding successively higher entropy levels as indicated by prediction errors or differences within the various subregions. In the present embodiment illustrated, the code tables are constructed using a Huffman code-based prefix and a multibit extension.